THIS TIME, VICTORIA

SOCCER NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VICTORIAN SOCCER FEDERATION

SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 1979

The Victorian squad before its recent match with Norwich City, standing from left: Chris Kalafatidis, John Gardiner, Peter Laumets, Jim Williams, Carl Gilder, Steve Short, Steve Kokoska, Gary Cole, Yakka Banovic. Front: Jimmy Rooney, John Yzendoorn, Alan Davidson, Joe Tront, Jamie Paton, Jim Tansey.

FK Partizan, from left, standing: Stojkovic, Zalad, Djurovic, Lazicic, Kozic, Kunovac, Nikitovic. Front: Klincarski, Varga, Todorovic, Santrac, Prekazi.

Tommy Cumming (right), pictured against Dundee last year, has been Victoria's star in recent games. Will he mastermind a Victorian victory today?

So near, yet so far! That was the feeling after Victoria's last match, against Norwich City, a month ago.

BY PETER DESIRA

Our lads led 2-0 and were cruising until four Norwich goals in a nine-minute burst near the end of the match blew away any chance of a first-ever win against a touring English First Division side.

Despite this, the Victorians matched Norwich in most departments and the understanding that was evident on the field was ample reward for coach Len McKendry's belief in making few changes to his squad.

The squad stayed in training after that match and today gets another chance of pitting its abilities against a top European outfit, Partizan Belgrade, whose tour has been arranged by the Australian Soccer Federation.

Our welcome visitors from Yugoslavia have achieved overwhelming success in their 33-year history, having won their country's championship eight times (including 1977/78) and the Yugoslav Cup four times.

Partizan also reached the European Cup final of 1965/66 losing 1-2 to Real Madrid and has achieved several remarkable victories on its regular overseas tours.

Victoria's best performances against touring teams have been wins against the Welsh FA 2-1, Bristol Rovers 2-1, and Dundee 2-1.

Victorian line-ups for the past two years have been:

1977

Victoria v South Australia 2-1

Scorers: Roberts, Baker (Vic), Kosmina (SA).

Victoria: Laumets (Makedonia), Adams (Ringwood City), Barron (George Cross), Baker (Hakoah), Kokoska (Sunshine), Wilkinson (George Cross), Tront (Mooroolbark), Gardiner (Croatia), Gilder (Slavia), Roberts (Hakoah), Beech (Makedonia). Sub — Cumming (Sunshine) for Beech 46th min.

Victoria O Middlesbrough (England) 4 (Maddren Mills, Armstrong, Hendley).

Victoria: Laumets (Makedonia, sub O'Hara of Hakoah, 80th), Tarquinio (Juventus), Baker (Hakoah), Kokoska (Croatia), Milne (Footscray), Tront (Mooroolbark), Wilkinson (George Cross, sub Roberts of Hakoah 54th), Gardiner (South Melb.), Ollerton (South Melb.), Gilder (Slavia), Ristovski (Footscray, sub, Cumming of Sunshine 54th).

1978

Victoria 2 (McClymont, Ford og), Dundee (Scotland) 1 (Sinclair).

Victoria: Hansen (South Melb.), V. Bannon (Frankston), Kondarios (Footscray), Baxter (South Melb.), Provan (Heidelberg), Kerr (Croatia), McClymont (Makedonia), Taylor (Heidelberg), Campbell (South Melb., sub Watkins of Juventus 53rd), Reed (George Cross, sub McMillan of Makedonia 66th), Cumming (Croatia).

1979

Victoria 2 (Cumming, Tront) South Australia 0.

Victoria: Banovic (Heidelberg), Short (Croatia), Yzendoorn (Slavia), Kokoska (Croatia), Tansey (Heidelberg), Gardiner (Croatia), Tront (Croydon), Rooney (Heidelberg), Cumming (Croatia), Paton (Slavia), Cole (Heidelberg).

Victoria 2 (Tront, Short) Norwich City (England) 4 (Fashanu, Peters 2, Bond pen).

Victoria: Banovic (Heidelberg), Short (Croatia, sub Kalafatidis of South Melb. 71st), Kokoska (Croatia), Yzendoorn (Heidelberg), Tansey (Heidelberg), Davidson (South Melb.), Rooney (Heidelberg), Tront (Croydon), Cole (Heidelberg), Paton (Heidelberg, sub Gilder of Croatia 60th), Cumming (Croatia).

Victorian midfielder Joe Tront (right) of Croydon City, pictured in action against former South Melbourne Hellas player Jim Alexiou, who now plays in Greece.

THE SQUAD

The Victorian players, with shirt numbers:

23. Yakka Banovic.
2. Steve Short.
3. Jim Tansey.
4. John Yzendoorn.
5. Steve Kokoska
6. Alan Davidson.
7. Joe Tront.
8. Jimmy Rooney
9. Carl Gilder
10. Joe Picioane
11. Tommy Cumming
12. Jim Williams
13. John Gardiner
14. Jamie Paton
15. Gary Cole
1. Peter Laumets

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Rooney battle
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All the scores

Victoria's full list of matches against touring teams.

1923 v China 0-2
1923 v China 1-3
1924 v Canada 1-0
1927 v Bohemia (Czech) 0-1
1927 v China 3-4
1927 v China 0-4
1927 v China 4-3
1938 v India 4-2
1939 v Palestine 1-7
1939 v Palestine 1-8
1940 v Palestine 4-3
1941 v China 2-7
1941 v China 3-8
1947 v South Africa 0-4
1949 v Hajduk (Yug) 3-3
1951 v England 0-5
1951 v England 0-7
1958 v Blackpool 0-8
1964 v Everton 1-3
1965 v Chelsea 0-1
1965 v Moscow Torpedo 0-4
1965 v Moscow Torpedo 1-4
1966 v Slovan Bratislava 1-6
1966 v AS Roma 2-4
1966 v Slovan Bratislava 0-3
1966 v AS Roma 0-1
1967 v Slavia Prague 3-3
1967 v Manchester United 0-4
1967 v Manchester United 1-1
1967 v Slavia Prague 1-5
1968 v Cardiff City 1-1
1968 v Cardiff City 0-6
1969 v Greece 0-0
1970 v Hertha 03 Berlin 1-1
1970 v Rumania "B" 0-1
1970 v Moscow Dynamo 1-7
1970 v Manchester City 0-3
1970 v Werder Bremen 1-2
1971 v Kosice (Czech.) 1-5
1971 v Toyo Kogyo (Jap) 3-5
1971 v Moscow Dynamo 0-0
1971 v English FA 1-3
1971 v Welsh FA 2-1
1972 v Cruzeiro (Braz) 1-4
1972 v Dundee 2-4
1973 v Santos (Braz) 0-2
1973 v Cruzeiro 1-2
1974 v Ferencvaros (Hung) 2-3
1974 v Bristol Rovers (Eng) 2-1
1975 v Legia Warsaw 1-4
1975 v Glasgow Rangers 1-5
1975 v Benfica 0-2
1976 v Velez Mostar (Yug) 2-2 aband.
1976 v Tottenham Hotspur 1-3
1976 v Bologna (It) 0-4
1976 v Italian Army 1-2
1976 v Atromitos (Gr) 1-1
1977 v Middlesbrough (Eng) 0-4
1978 v Dundee (Scot) 2-1
1979 v Wisla Krakow 0-1
1979 v Norwich City (Eng) 2-4

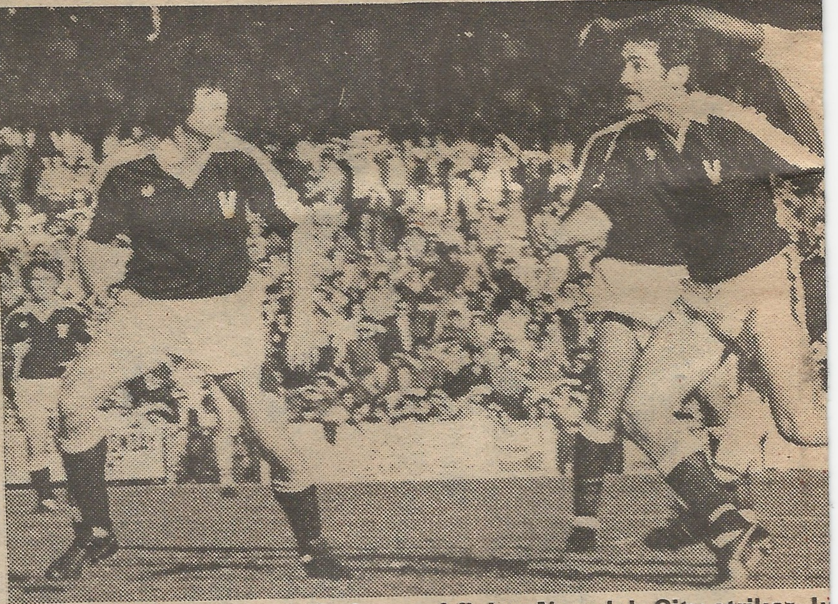
Victorian goalkeeper Yakka Banovic repels a shot while diving full length.

YAKKA BANOVIC: Goalkeeper, signed by Heidelberg United in March for $20,000 — currently the Australian record fee for a keeper — after rocketing to the top in 27 league and cup games for Essendon-Croatia. Started as a Whyalla junior, then played with Adelaide Croatia for five years before crossing to Essendon in May last year. He has already won State League championship and Cup winners' medals and is presently in contention for the Australian squad. Age 22.

Croatia's State star Tommy Cumming with the 1978 Rothmans Medal.

GARY COLE. (Heidelberg United): Striker. The overall top scorer in the Philips League after the first 2 seasons, with a total of 22 goals. Going through a barren spell this year but has shown signs of a return to form. Was a member of the Victorian Under 16 team which won the 1972 national championships while playing for South Yarra. Spent four years at Ringwood City before transferring to Heidelberg in 1976 for $6,000 and has since made over 70 league and cup appearances for the club. Toured Indonesia with the Australian B side and made his full international debut against Greece last year. Age 23. Occupation: physical education teacher.

TOM CUMMING: (Essendon Croatia): Forward. Holder of the 1978 Rothmans Medal for the State League best and fairest, Cumming has clicked into top gear after a slow start to the season during which he asked for a transfer. Came to Australia from Scotland in 1976 and was voted Sunshine City's Player of the Year at the end of that season. Scored 22 goals in 40 league appearances before moving to Essendon for $6,000 in February last year to help the club to a clean sweep of Ampol Cup, State League and League Cup honours. Has starred in recent Victorian State matches against Dundee and Norwich. Age 22.

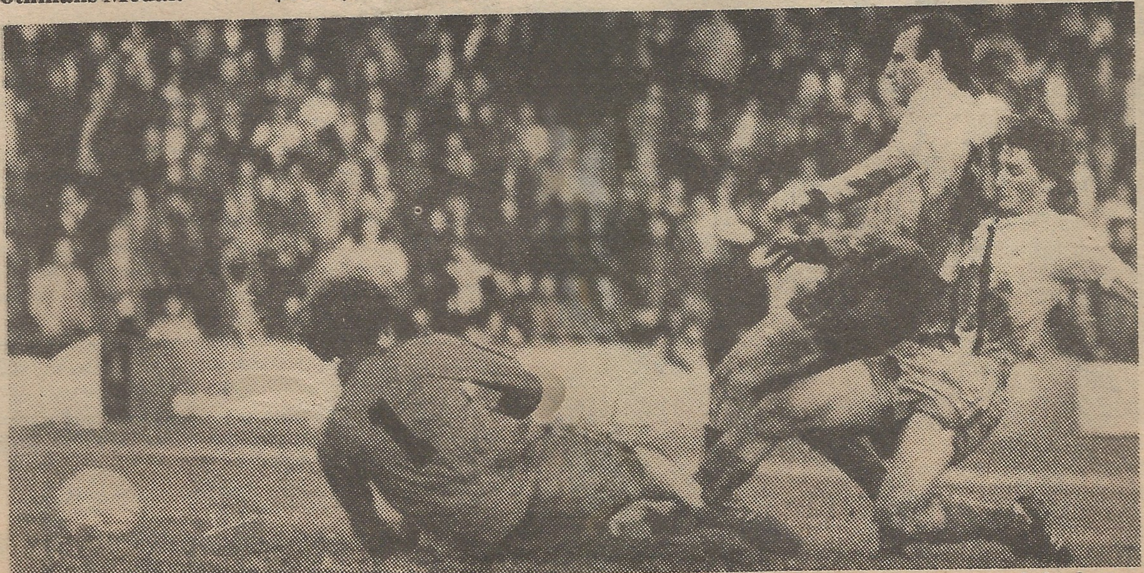


Steve Kokoska darts in front of flying Norwich City striker Ju head clear during Victoria's 2-4 loss to the Englishmen last mont son.

ALAN DAVIDSON (South Melbourne): Playing a midfield role for the State team as well as adapting successfully to a switch to fullback at his club. A product of the Altona City juniors, Davidson emerged as an exciting prospect in Altona's first two seasons in the State League during which he made 41 league appearances. Member of the Australian under 19 squad which took part in the qualifying series of the World Youth Championship in N Zealand and Paraguay t year. Joined Sou Melbourne for $1000 (ma imum fee stipulated in contract) and has contribut greatly to South's recove under new coach Dunc McKay. Age 18.

JOHN GARDINER: N back in the fold at Essend Croatia after being in dispu since the start of the seas Highly regarded by L McKendry who kept him the State squad despite lack of competitive actic Arrived in Australia in 19 gave eight years' service George Cross, then sign for Essendon in May '76. H a short stint with Sou Melbourne in the inaugu Philips League season bef returning to Essendon l year, initially as player-coa Was the Rothmans Medal in 1971 and 1972. Qualifi for the senior coaching bad in VSF courses. Age 31.

CARL GILDER (Essend Croatia): forward. Blo bombshell who has come the fore under Len McKe dry's coaching and is n rated the best centre forw in Victoria by his club coa Brian Edgley. Was a Ca



Left back Jim Tansey tackles Marconi's Peter Sharne (right) to prevent a goal during a Philips League match last year. Heidelberg, Tansey's club, won 4-1.

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stin Fashanu (No. 9) to . At left is Alan David-

bridge United (UK) professional before joining Prahran Slavia in June '76. Signed for Essendon for a reputed $3000 fee after a stormy two-year spell at Slavia during which he was one of seven players who went out on strike against the club. Is among the leading scorers in the State League this season. Age 21.

STEVE KOKOSKA (Essendon Croatia): centre back who has held his place in the squad ahead of national squad contender Stuart Baxter of South Melbourne. Nicknamed "Butch", Kokoska graduated through Sunshine's junior set-up and helped the club to the State League in 1974. Voted the Yugoslav Airlines Player of the Year in '76 by "Soccer Action". Signed by Essendon in May '77 for $6000 and was an ever present last year when the club won the Ampol Cup. State League, and League Cup. Age 27.

PETER LAUMETS (South Melbourne): Goalkeeper. Another player fiercely competing for a team spot at South. He was signed in December from Makedonia for $15,000 but did not make

Goalkeeper Peter Laumets in action for South Melbourne Hellas. He and Yakka Banovic are Victoria's goalkeepers.

his debut until April due to the good form of Jack Reilly and John Hansen. Started his career with Altona, joined Makedonia at 18 for $7000 and did not miss a league match in his three years there. Played for the Australian eleven against Greece in June last year. Age 22.

JIM PATON (Heidelberg United): forward. Signed for a big fee on the strength of his goal scoring prowess in his first season in the State League. Joined Prahran Slavia from Scottish Second Division club Queen's Park where he made 55 league appearances in two seasons, playing mainly in midfield because the club did not consider him tall enough for a forward position. Won the Courage top scorer award with 17 goals, then submitted three transfer requests to Slavia at the start of the season before being allowed to move last month. Age 24.

JIM ROONEY (Heidelberg United): At 33 the oldest member of the side but still retains the enthusiasm and dedication of a youngster just coming into the game. Played for Peterborough (UK) for two years, then Montrose in Scotland. Joined Essendon Lions in 1968 and was voted the league's best and fairest player the same year. Moved to Prague (NSW) in 1970, APIA in 1971, then signed for Marconi in 1977. Was an ever-present in the PSL, scoring 7 goals as well as winning the Australian Player of the Year Award. Crossed to Victoria at the start of the year for a reported $10,000. First represented Victoria 10 years ago.

STEVE SHORT (Essendon Croatia): Another player who fills different roles for his club and State, winning a fullback spot in the Victorian side whereas at Croatia he partners Kokoska in the middle of the defence. Joined Prahran Slavia from English Northern Premier League club South Liverpool in June 1977 but was restricted to five games that year due to injury. Blossomed into a consistent performer last year and polled well in the Rothmans Medal, finishing joint runner-up. Transferred to Croatia in February this year for $6000. Scored Victoria's second goal against Norwich last month. Age 24. Occupation: draftsman.

JIM TANSEY (Heidelberg United): fullback. Another former South Liverpool player, Tansey came to Australia in 1974 and gave Prahran Slavia three years' service before moving to Heidelberg (then known as Fitzroy) in March '77 with Jim O'Reilly in a combined deal worth $14,000. Has been a fixture at club and State level and has represented Australia. Won the Rothmans Medal and the Bill Fleming Medal in 1976. Age 25.

JOE TRONT. Midfielder playing an important role for Croydon City in the club's first season in the State League. Born in Poland but was brought up in Scotland, giving service to Raith Rovers and Forfar Athletic before joining Mooroolbark in June '76. Was the club's leading scorer in its only Philips League season, and represented Victoria against Middlesbrough before transferring to Heidelberg for $5000 in July '77. Signed by Croydon for the same amount last year and helped the club to the First Division championship. Age 26.

JIM WILLIAMS (Prahran Slavia). A very underrated winger who is proving a nightmare for most State League fullbacks. His talents have been noticed by McKendry and he is on the verge of a place in the first eleven. Came to Australia from South Liverpool at the same time as Steve Short. Recovered from a leg injury which kept him on the sidelines for 9 league matches last year. Age 25.

JOHN YZENDOORN: sweeper. Signed by Heidelberg United in May along with Paton in a $22,000 transfer deal. A former Preston North End apprentice, he joined Prahran Slavia in April 1978 and was an ever-present in the league. Voted the State League's Player of the Year by "Soccer Action" newspaper. Has fully recovered from the groin injury which troubled him at the start of the year. Age 23.

JOE PICIOANE (Footscray): midfielder. Graduated through Footscray J.U.S.T.'s junior ranks and has long been one of Victoria's best midfielders with his tremendous vision and close control. Has played over 70 league matches in the three years of the PSL and is one of the best prospects for national team selection according to coach Rudi Gutendorf. Now fully recovered from an injury which kept him out of the squad for the Norwich game.

The Victorian side is outfitted by Umbro International and flies TAA and Qantas.

Bring in coaches, not players, says Peters

By PETER DESIRA

Victorian soccer lags 15 years behind Australian Rules football, according to former English soccer international Martin Peters.

"Soccer is very slowly creeping in but footy has such a stronghold in Victoria, it's going to take a long, long time — 10 maybe 15 years — before anything really happens," he said.

Peters had just finished another training session with Frankston City where he was guesting for five matches and was talking to me on the impressions he had gained of soccer in Australia during his stay here.

"The main problem lies with the youngsters," he said. "Victoria has to get the game going through the schools like they have done in the States so that at the age of 17 or 18 when they leave, the youngsters want to play soccer rather than anything else."

Peters has done his bit in that direction, visiting schools and giving talks to juniors, but he advocates long-term coaches to help our youths.

"The sport must switch from bringing players to bringing top coaches from overseas to organise schoolboys and soccer at youth level."

Peters' career record makes awesome reading. He has made 67 international appearances for England, played for three First Division clubs — West Ham, Tottenham, and Norwich — commanded over $600,000 in total transfer fees and collected an array of soccer medals ranging from World Cup, European Cup Winners' Cup to FA Cup winners' medals.

But despite all that, there was no aloofness about the player. He went out of his way to promote the club that brought him here — as well as the game — by attending countless functions, appearing on television, granting many interviews and above all wooing the fans with his skill on the field.

He mixed in well with the players and on the night I watched training, handed out friendly jibes to his team-mates and copped answers just as quickly.

"I though you're a bit faster than that," he told Noel Mitten who gave up the chase on a hard-hit through ball. "Do you think I've got wings?" came back Mitten's smiling response.

Peters' criticism was never direct but the message was always there. He didn't actually say it in as many words but it was obvious that the level of the game had disappointed him.

He compared the Victorian State side — against which he played during Norwich City's tour — to an English Third or Fourth Division team and said that the State League is on a par with the English Southern League.

Pushed further, he said politely, "I thought the standard might have been better."

This is what he said about some other local matters.

Grounds: "Most clubs are still at a building stage and since there is little financial backing, you cannot expect big grounds."

Refereeing: "The standard has been pretty good. Perhaps I've been lucky in having good ones but in the matches I've played they've been fairly consistent."

Crowds: "I was warned beforehand that attendances average around the 1000 mark."

Imports: "Unless they're top players clubs would be better off giving local youngsters a go."

Overseas touring teams: "Most close season tours are taken as a bit of a holiday by clubs and Australia cannot really judge their strength by results against these teams. Norwich did not play to their capacity in Australia."

Peters reckons Australia should keep playing overseas teams, nevertheless. "You've got to play against better teams to improve yourselves, even if the opposition is playing only up to 90% of their best," he said.

The veteran midfielder left Australia earlier this week for a short holiday in Portugal before starting pre-season training at Norwich in July.

His stay here helped put Frankston on the map and hopefully Victorian soccer will heed his advice and reap the benefit of his experience.

Brilliant midfielder Joe Picioane (right) slams home a goal for Footscray J.U.S.T. against Sydney Olympic goalkeeper Gary Meier (left). Others, from left: Paul Luckett, Zoran Ilioski (No. 8), Mike Cross and George Gibson.

Essendon Croatia's star goalscorer Carl Gilder (left) gets in front of George Cross centre back Norm Maitland to win a header in a State League match.

Partizan star Hatunic (right) battles with Petrovic of Red Star. Hatunic has returned from a stint in Turkey in time for Partizan's Australian tour.

WELCOME, PARTIZAN

Message from the president of the Victorian Soccer Federation, Mr. T. Marmaras, MBE, JP.

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the Victorian Soccer Federation, to welcome the Partizan Belgrade club to Melbourne for its game against Victoria.

I feel sure that the game will be keenly fought and will be enjoyed by those present. I wish both teams good luck and to Partizan Belgrade an enjoyable stay in Australia.

Zavicic puts the ball past goalkeeper Stojanovic to put Partizan into the lead in a game against Red Star.

Three titles in a row

The soccer club Partizan was founded on 4.10.1945, and is an integral part of the Yugoslav sports society Partizan, which is the largest collective body in the country. It is made up of 22 clubs with over 4,000 active sportspeople.

The soccer club Partizan was Yugoslav champion in 1946/47, 1948/49, 1960/61, 1961/62, 1962/63, 1964/65, 1975/76 and 1977/78.

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MEET THE TOURISTS

Some of the leading Partizan players are:

RADE ZALAD: goalkeeper. Came up through the junior ranks, under the watchful eye of coach Mateka Lo. Took over in the first team when Borota went to Chelsea. Has made a string of penalty saves. Age 21.

BORISLAV DUROVIC: left full back. Has been at Partizan since transferring from Sutjeska in 1972. Capped four times for the Yugoslav national side at senior level. Age 29.

VLADA LAZICIC: right full-back. Like Zalad he came up through the juniors and is now an established first team regular. Age 20.

REFIK KOSIC: left midfielder. Established first team member, with over 134 appearances to his credit. Came to Partizan from Buducnost of Pec. Age 24.

NENAD STOJKOVIC: stopper centre-half. Since 1977 has made the Yugoslav national centre-half position his own, being capped 24 times to date. 1978 Yugoslav Player of the Year. Age 26.

TOMISLAV KUNOVAC: right midfielder. Another fine Partizan junior product who has been capped at international "B" level. Age 25.

NIKITA KLINCARSKI: right winger. One of the most experienced players at the club. At the age of 17 he was snapped up by Partizan after outstanding displays with Males. Has been a first team regular ever since, being capped at youth level, and seems certain to break into the senior Yugoslav national side soon. Age 25.

ZVONKO VARGA: Another rising midfield star who has been capped at youth level. Came to Partizan from Crvenka. Age 20.

SLOBODAN SANTRAC: striker. Easily the most experienced player with Partizan. Started his career with Buducnost, transferred to O.F.K. Belgrade in 1964, staying with that club until 1975. During his stay with O.F.K. he topped the First Division goalscorers no less than five times. His 215 goals (60 more than his nearest rival), stand as an alltime Yugoslav League record. In 1975, Santrac left Yugoslavia to play for two seasons for the famous Grasshoppers club of Zurich in Switzerland. He was recalled by O.F.K. in 1977 and helped them to avoid relegation. In 1978 he joined Partizan and won a championship medal that season. One of Yugoslavia's alltime greats. Age 32.

ANDREJ TODOROVIC: left midfielder. Another skilful product of Partizan's junior nursery, who has been capped at youth level. Age 22.

DZEVAD PREKAZI: left winger. Promising young player who came to Partizan from Trepce of Kosovske. Capped for Yugoslav youth team. Age 20.

Nenad Stojkovic

Slobodan Santrac

Nikita Klincarski

Printed by York Press Pty Ltd 1-19 Hoddle St, Abbotsford